

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF S.B. 284: AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FROM EIGHT TO EIGHTEEN YEARS FOR AN INCOME-ELIGIBLE PERSON TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS.**

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF CT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Dear members of the Connecticut Human Services Committee:

Good afternoon, my name is Edgar Abrego. I arrived in this country in 2009. I am a member of the group Manos Unidas (Hands United) of New Britain. I am in favor of S.B. 284: AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FROM EIGHT TO EIGHTEEN YEARS FOR AN INCOME-ELIGIBLE PERSON TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS because it would be a step forward to get access to HUSKY for all our immigrant community, regardless of age.

Three months after arriving in 2009 I had an accident. I broke a bone in my right foot and was taken to Hartford Hospital. When I arrived, I was in a lot of pain, and they did not want to treat me because I did not have social security or medical insurance. They kept me for a long time before treating me, making me fill out paperwork and trying to figure out how I was going to pay. When they finally operated on me (for which I am very grateful) not even a day went by when they told me that I had to go home. I feel that they did not treat me like they would treat a person with insurance. They just told me to come back in a month and a half to have the staples or stitches removed. When I came back, the stitches were getting caught with my skin, and when they were removed it hurt so much. They gave me nothing for the pain. In all the time I have been in this country I have had no physical exams or anything.

Please I ask you to please support the bill S.B. 284: AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FROM EIGHT TO EIGHTEEN YEARS FOR AN INCOME-ELIGIBLE PERSON TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS because it is a step towards getting what our community needs which is HUSKY for ALL immigrants.

Thank you,  
Edgar Abrego